

SSHRC Partnership Programs

Research Services Office
Information Session

28 May 2020

Agenda:

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|-------------|--|
| 1:00 – 1:10 | Welcome & Introductions |
| 1:10 – 1:40 | Overview of the SSHRC Partnership programs
<i>Steven Hermans and Sarah Scott, RSO</i> |
| 1:40 – 2:10 | Insights from the SSHRC Selection Committee
<i>Shelley Stagg Peterson, OISE</i> |
| 2:10 – 2:25 | Editorial Support and Early Proposal Development
<i>Lee Slinger, RSO</i> |
| 2:25 – 2:30 | Timelines, Next Steps, Q&A |

What does SSHRC fund?

SSHRC Subject Matter

Intended outcome of the research must primarily be to add to our understanding and knowledge of **individuals, groups and societies**

Insight, Connection, and Talent

Insight

Research and Knowledge Creation: builds knowledge and understanding about people, societies and the world

Connection

Outreach and Knowledge Mobilization: realizes the potential for intellectual, cultural, social and economic influence, benefit and impact

Talent

Research Training: supports graduate students and postdoctoral fellows

SSHRC Partnership Programs

Partnership Programs provide funding for

- research, research training and knowledge mobilization
- new and existing formal partnerships

Must demonstrate **mutual co-operation and sharing** of intellectual leadership

Partnerships can take a **variety of forms** and be at **various phases** of development

- initial collaboration
- designing and testing new partnership approaches
- expansion of an established partnership
- stand-alone activities or catalysts to longer-term partnerships

What is a SSHRC Partnership?

- A bilateral or multilateral **formal collaboration agreement**
- Between an applicant and one or more partner organizations
 - between academic institutions; or
 - between academic institutions and non-academic partner organizations

Partner organizations

- commit to work collaboratively to achieve **shared goals for mutual benefit**
- provide evidence attesting to the commitment
- must **contribute in a meaningful way** to the success of the endeavour
 - sharing in intellectual leadership or providing expertise
 - provide cash and/or in-kind contributions

Partnership Approaches

- Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships
 - Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding
 - Networks for research and/or related activities
 - Partnered knowledge mobilization
 - Partnered chairs
 - Partnered research centres
 - Partnered research training initiatives
- } Partnership Grants only
- SSHRC welcomes applications involving [Indigenous research](#), as well as those involving [research-creation](#).

Partner = Organization

- Canadian or international
- Any type (public, private, not-for-profit)

In partnership application, partner organizations identify an individual who will act as a **contact person**. This person may or may not be a participant.

Participants = People

Project Director leads the project.

Co-applicants must be affiliated with:

- Canadian postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; or municipal, territorial or provincial governments; or
- International postsecondary institutions.

Collaborators can be any individual.

Individuals from the private sector or federal government can only participate as collaborators.

Partnership Grant

Duration: 4 to 7 years

Value: \$500k to \$2.5 million
(maximum of \$500k per year)

Minimum contributions:

35 per cent cash and/or in-kind contributions
(e.g., \$875k to support \$2.5M SSHRC
request)

Partnership Development Grant

Duration: 1 to 3 years

Value: \$75k to \$200k

Contributions:

No minimum contribution required
Expected demonstration of commitment to
partnership (e.g., cash or in-kind
contributions)

Partnership Engage Grant

PEGs provide support for partnered research activities that will inform decision-making at a **single partner organization** from the public, private or not-for-profit sector.

These small-scale, stakeholder-driven partnerships are meant to **respond to immediate needs and time constraints** facing organizations in **non-academic sectors**.

Duration: one year

Value: \$7k to \$25k

Contributions: No minimum contribution

Deadlines: Quarterly - September 15, December 15, March 15 and June 15

Success Rates (National)

Partnership Grants

2018-2019

26.6% (17 of 64)

2019-20

22.4% (15 of 67)

Average Grant

\$2.496M

Partnership Development

2018-19

47.3%

2019-20

57.1%

Average Grant

\$189k

Partnership Engage Grant

2018-19

60.8%

2017-18

62.8%

Average Grant

\$24K

Application Process

Partnership Grants

Stage 1 (February 15)

- Multidisciplinary Committee
- No external assessments
- Invitation to Stage 2 in June
- \$20k in development funds

Stage 2 - by invitation (~November 1)

- Expert panel review (external)
- Same Committee as Stage 1
- Applicant Team Interview
- Results in Spring (March/April)

Partnership Development Grants

One Stage

- Multidisciplinary Committee
- No external assessments

November
application



March results
& start date

Unique Elements of Partnership Applications

- Foregrounding of goals, objectives, benefits, outcomes and impacts *in relation to partner organizations*, as well as broader societal benefits and impacts
- Description of Partner Involvement (i.e., Organizations)
- Description of Team or Participants Involvement
- Evidence of Formal Partnership
 - Memorandum of Understanding
- Governance and decision making
- Partner Letters (Letters of Engagement/Letters of Support)
- Proposed Contributions Plan

Evaluation Criteria

Challenge

The aim and importance of
the endeavour

Feasibility

The plan to achieve
excellence

Capability

The expertise to succeed

Evaluation Criteria Weighting

	Challenge	Feasibility	Capability
Partnership Grant	40%	30%	30%
Partnership Development Grant	50%	20%	30%
Partnership Engage Grant	60%	20%	20%

Insights from the Selection Committee

Shelley Stagg-Peterson

Program Coordinator, Language and Literacies Education Program
Department of Curriculum, Teaching, and Learning
Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE)

Member of SSHRC Partnership Grant Selection Committee, 2019

Stage 1: Adjudication Committee Membership

- All committee members:
 - are bilingual to varying degrees
 - have some experience with partnership-type projects
- Committee members, from private, public, non-profit organizations, who have doctoral degrees and substantial research experience

Ensuring fairness in the adjudication process

- Training module and initial scoring practice
- Ranking process:
 - Three committee members, with expertise in relevant fields rank and discuss at a meeting in May
 - Lead reader initiates discussion and submits comments for PD
 - Scoring for each of the three categories (challenge, feasibility, capability) is on a 6-point scale – from unsatisfactory to excellent
 - SSHRC staff normalize the scores to guard against skewing high or low

Avoiding conflict of interest

Committee members leave the room for discussions of applications for which:

- their postsecondary institution is the host or partner institution
- they have collaborated with/are related to or close friends of/have had longstanding personal differences with/been a supervisor of the Project Director or co-applicants
- they will benefit financially if the project is funded

Accountability and confidentiality measures

- Chair has PG adjudication committee experience
- SSHRC staff available for consultation and at least 2 staff members record the discussions and decisions
- Overseer records observations of the process carried out over the 3 days
- All print materials left with SSHRC for shredding; all electronic files deleted from computers/devices

Stage 2 Adjudication

- Meeting takes place over 3 days in early March
- All committee members read and discuss every application and scores are averaged
- Adjudication informed by Expert Team Reports:
 - Three to four Canadian and international experts are brought together in a teleconference for each of the 20-25 or so applications invited to stage 2
 - Report, usually 3-8 pages, identifies strengths and weaknesses

Stage 2 Videoconference interview

- Project Director and 2 partnership team members
 - important to show that partners have a significant and meaningful roles
 - Lead reader suggests 3 questions that are modified in whole-committee discussion
 - All 3 questions asked at beginning of interview; team decides how much time to devote to each one



**Editorial &
Proposal
Development
Officers**

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RSO Editorial Support

Partnership Development Grants

We will provide a close editorial review of a polished final draft one month before SSHRC's deadline. Our feedback ensures that proposals:

- clearly demonstrate the significance of the research;
- address program criteria (e.g., partner engagement);
- have a logical structure that presents content persuasively;
- have clear and compelling writing with correct grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation.

**RSO
Editorial
Support**

Partnership Grants (Stage 1 & 2)

Stage 1

- Close editorial review of a polished final draft one month before SSHRC's deadline.

Stage 2

- In-person Stage 2 preparatory meeting in June.
- Early draft editorial review in August, prior to internal peer review.
- Full application editorial review one month before SSHRC's deadline.

Know the Program

Keep the program requirements in mind

- Be familiar with the requirements, the assessment criteria, and the process.

Read the application and instructions carefully as part of the preliminary development process. Contact Research Services if you have questions.

- Think of your audience.

PDG: Multidisciplinary selection committee, which includes expertise from the academic community and from the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

PG Stage 1: Multidisciplinary selection committee

PG Stage 2: Expert review panel & multidisciplinary committee

Know the Program

Use Partnership Program terminology

Partners = Organizations

Host institution
Partner organization(s)

Participants = People

Project director or applicant (1 person)
Therefore PD, not PI.
Co-applicant(s)
Collaborator(s)

Goal

Used by SSHRC in the singular.
The single, overarching aim of the partnership.

Objectives

Used in the plural.
The achievable, specific objectives that will achieve the goal.

Outcomes

Permeate daily life and lead to improvements.
Facilitated by knowledge mobilization.

Developing a Formal Partnership

Develop your program collaboratively with your partners from the beginning. Remember, you will have to demonstrate that this is a **genuine** partnership.

- Why is a partnership approach appropriate and how does it add value?
- How are the partners meaningfully engaged?
- How will the partners benefit?
- What role will partners play in intellectual leadership? How will their expertise be integrated?

Don't underestimate the time it will take to establish the framework and details with all your partners.

EARLY PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT



VISION

What is the **overall goal** and **vision** of the partnership?



OBJECTIVES

What **objectives** will achieve that goal?



ACTIVITIES

What **specific activities** will fulfill your objectives and lead to outcomes?



PARTNERSHIP

Why are the partners complementary? How will they be **meaningfully engaged**?

Summary

1. Know the program.

- In developing the proposal with your partners, keep the requirements in mind.
- Understand and use SSHRC terminology.

2. Develop a meaningful partnership.

- Work with partners to create a program that will be a genuine partnership.

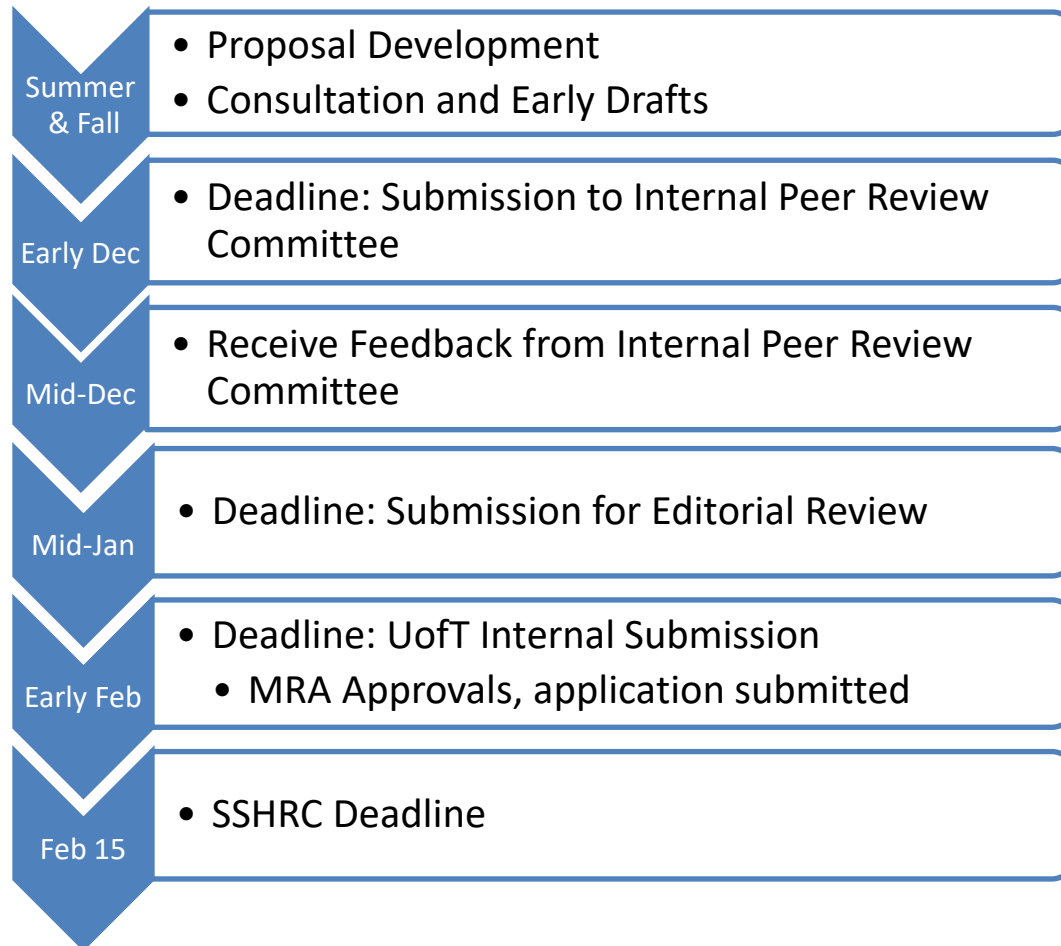
3. Define your goal and objectives.

- Develop clearly defined goals, objectives, and activities with your partners.

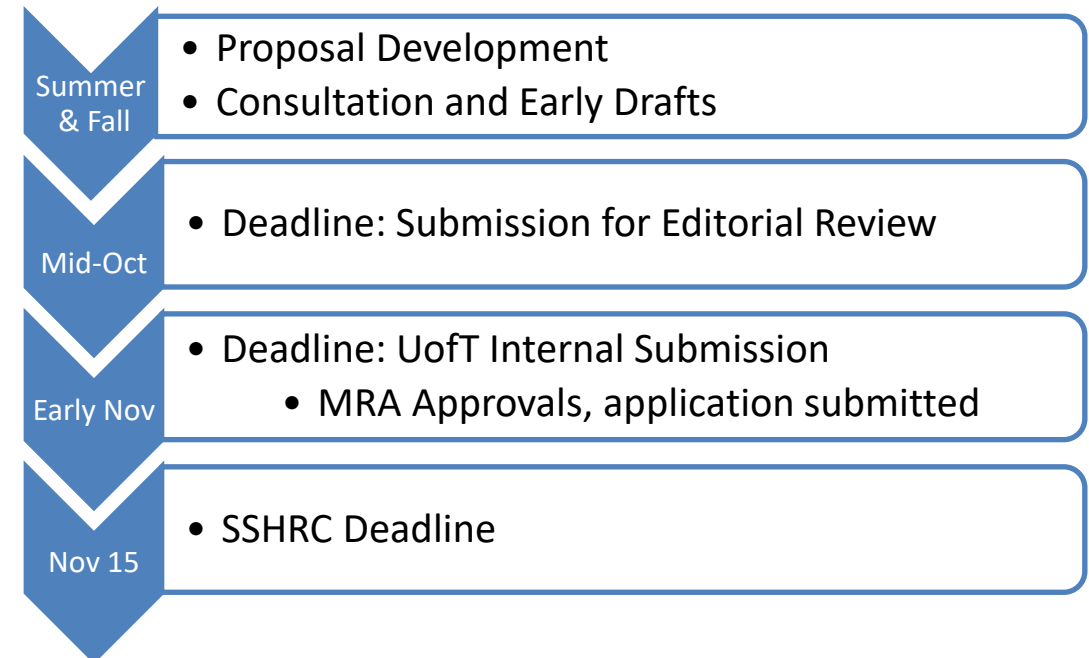


Proposal Submission Timelines

Partnership Grant



Partnership Development Grant



Next Steps & Proposal Development

Next Steps

- Review program and application requirements
- Review model proposals
- Consult expertise
- Engage co-applicants and collaborators
- Engage potential partners
- Co-develop goals and objectives

Plan for multiple iterations
with progressive feedback
from multiple stakeholders

Consultation and Feedback

- Participants, Partners
- Colleagues
- Chair/Director
- Research Managers/Facilitators
- Business Officers (Budget)
- Support Services, e.g.,
 - UTL Map & Data Library
 - Open Access Support; TSpace
 - Information Technology
- Research Services Office
- SSHRC Program Officers

Resources for Proposal Development

SSHRC Application Materials

- Program Descriptions ([PG](#), [PDG](#), [PEG](#))
- Application Instructions ([PG](#), [PDG](#), [PEG](#))
- SSHRC [CV Instructions](#)

SSHRC Guidelines and Resources

- Guidelines for [Effective Knowledge Mobilization](#)
- Guidelines for [Effective Research Training](#)
- Guidelines for [Cash and In-kind Contributions](#)
- Tri-Agency [Guide on Financial Administration](#)
- [SSHRC Partnerships Toolkit](#)
- Merit Review of [Indigenous Research](#)

Research Services Office

- RSO Program Pages ([PG](#), [PDG](#), [PEG](#))
 - Deadlines, Submission Process
 - Model proposals
 - MOU Templates

Finding Successful Models

- Divisional Research Facilitators
- Partnership Development Officer
- SSHRC [Competition Results](#)
- SSHRC [Awards Search Engine](#)

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